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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Ann Marie Schmidt and David Stern
Serial No. : 09/166,649 Examiner: E. O'Hara
Filing Date : October 5, 1998 Art Unit: 1646
For : METHODS FOR DETERMINING WHETHER A COMPOUND IS
CAPABLE OF INHIBITING THE INTERACTION OF A
PEPTIDE WITH RAGE

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
April 10, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**COMMUNICATION IN REPLY TO NOVEMBER 17, 1999 OFFICE ACTION,
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
PETITION FOR A FOUR-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME**

This Communication is submitted in reply to the November 17, 1999 Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A reply to the November 17, 1999 Office Action was originally due December 17, 1999. Applicants hereby request a four-month extension of time to April 17, 2000. The fee for a four-month extension of time for a small entity is SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$680.00) and a check including this amount is enclosed herewith. Applicants have previously established small entity status. Thus, a reply is now due April 17, 2000. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

Restriction/Election

The Examiner required applicants to elect one species to be